(b) if so, the total amount distributed as compensation during 1997-98 1998-99 and 1999-2000?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The total amount distributed as compensation to the dependants of the dead and injured passengers during 1997-98 to 1999-2000 was Rs. 19.27 crores.

Trains Accidents

† 4384. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH :
SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 357 incidents of train accidents have been reported in the country during 1999;

(b) if so, the facts in this regard and the names of the regions where these accidents took place, alongwith the number of accidents in each region;

(c) whether the reasons for these accidents have been found out; and

(d) if so, the number of accidents that took place and reasons therefor and the number of passengers killed and injured in the accidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) The total number of consequential train accidents during the year 1999 was 444.

(b) The number of accidents in each Zonal Railway during 1999 was as follows :—

Railway	No. of Accidents
Central Railway	81
Eastern Railway	32
Northern Railway	78
North Eastern Railway	24
Northeast Frontier Railway	63
Southern Railway	47
South Central Railway	33
South Eastern Railway	52
Western Railway	31
Konkan Railway Corporation	3
TOTAL	444

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) and (d) The above accidents took place due to the following reasons.—

Cause of Accident	No. of Accidents
Failure of Railway Staff	290
Failure of other than Railway Staff	77
Equipment failure	25
Sabotage	27
Incidental	15
Not established	7
Under Investigation	3
TOTAL	444

In the above accidents, 529 persons were killed and 1091 persons were injured.

Note . The above figures are provisional.

Sanctioned strength of Senior Scale Posts in Railways

4385. SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total of sanctioned strength in senior scale posts on Indian Railways (Permanent, Temporary, Workcharge and others), department-wise, as on 1st January, 2000;

(b) the number of officers working against these posts (direct recruits, promotee, ad hoc basis), department-wise as on 1st January, 2000;

(c) the number of vacancies existing, department-wise, as on 1st January, 2000; and

(d) the plan to fill up vacancies and by when ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.